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May 24, 1978

Memo to File:

Re: Utah International, Inc.  
Iron County, Utah  
ACT/021/001

On May 12th 1978, Jim Smith and Brian Buck met with Mr. Dennis Stansbury of Utah International to inspect this operation.

The McGary Dump was inspected first and found to have a very good cover of clover with only scattered grasses. This dump was seeded with clover only in 1975 and this spring has come up well. An additional seeding of grass should be made to augment the legumes and natural brush.

The Blackbird Pit is a deep, narrow trench that was abandoned recently. There is still a small amount of ore in the pit and this might cause a brief rejuvenation of mining in this pit in the future. All of the waste from the pit was hauled uphill to the south and dumped into the deep Irene Pit. The Blackbird Pit is a sacrifice area and only requires safety berms and warning signs around its perimeter.

The Irene Pit is abandoned and partially filled. Its south and west walls are very steep and need safety barriers. The old dumps need regrading and re-seeding as does the pit fill. The haul road from the Irene and Blackbird Pits needs to be ripped and reseeded.

The Little Mormon and Eclipse Pits are now actively being mined, but probably will be mined out soon. The dumps above both pits have been regraded to rounded configurations. A reseeding effort on the Eclipse Dump has failed. Waste from both pits is being placed in the Pioche Pit which is one of U.S. Steel's old pits. It is anticipated that the Pioche Pit will be entirely filled. The old dumps around the Pioche Pit are the property of U.S. Steel. The pit areas of the Eclipse and Little Mormon mines are sacrifice areas and only require the safety berms.

A mop-up mining operation is now being conducted in what is known as the Armstrong/South Lindsay Pit. The pit area being mined is only a small portion of a long, narrow, deep pit which is quite unstable and will be abandoned in the fall of 1978. Waste from the mining is being placed in the previously abandoned Lindsay Pit. This large and complex mine complex is largely owned in fee by Utah International with substantial areas held by Utah International via lease agreements. Utah International will regrade and reclaim the land controlled by it but cannot do so on the leased land.

The mixed ownership of the above described areas in addition to possible low-grade ore values of some portions of the old dumps complicates the reclamation program for these areas. The low-grade ore dumps should logically be fully depleted prior to any reclamation work so that the operators involved can uniformly coordinate their efforts at reclamation. Ideally the entire area would be regraded and reseeded at once by perhaps one contractor so as to minimize the cost to all parties. Such coordination between Utah International, U.S. Steel, C.F. & I Corp. and, various other owners should be encouraged by the State.

Utah International operates a magnetic and flotation beneficiation plant at Iron Springs. The coarse refuse is conveyed to a high pile adjacent to a tailings pile which retains the fine refuse. Ore is sorted by size and grade and is shipped by rail. Reclamation at the plant site will consist of raising all shops, offices and equipment. The ore storage area will be regraded as will the coarse refuse area. All areas will be scarified and seeded.

The McCahill-Thompson Alluvium Mine is progressing in an orderly manner. The on-going reclamation at this site is largely very successful with a good stand of grass and native brush over much of the regraded area.

In general, the quality of Utah International's reclamation efforts to date has been first class. Future success of large scale reclamation depends on coordination with other operators and also on limiting the grazing of reseeded areas. The fee surface owners and the BLM should be contacted as to the possibility of temporarily excluding grazing of cattle and sheep on newly reseeded areas.

No development work has been done to date on the April Fool or Thompson proposed pits.

Brian W. Buck *BWB*  
ENGINEERING GEOLOGIST

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